

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 – 30 (previously canceled)

Claim 31 (currently amended): An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding an lysyl-tRNA synthetase, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 ~~or SEQ ID NO:14~~ have at least 80% identity based on the Clustal alignment method, or
- (b) ~~the~~ a full-length complement of the nucleotide sequence of (a).

Claim 32 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 ~~or SEQ ID NO:14~~ have 85% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 ~~or SEQ ID NO:14~~ have 90% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the synthetase and the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 ~~or SEQ ID NO:14~~ have 95% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:9 ~~or SEQ ID NO:13~~.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 31, wherein the synthetase comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10 ~~or SEQ ID NO:14~~.

Claim 37 (previously added): A chimeric gene comprising the polynucleotide of claim 31 operably linked to a regulatory sequence.

Claim 38 (previously added): A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 31.

**Claim 39 (previously added): A method for transforming a cell comprising transforming a cell with the polynucleotide of claim 31.**

**Claim 40 (previously added): A cell comprising the chimeric gene of claim 37.**

**Claim 41 (previously added): A method for producing a plant comprising transforming a plant cell with the chimeric gene of claim 31 and regenerating a plant from the transformed plant cell.**

**Claim 42 (previously added): A plant comprising the chimeric gene of claim 37.**

**Claim 43 (previously added): A seed comprising the chimeric gene of claim 37.**

**Claims 44 – 66 (withdrawn)**